

Graffiti on campus

Police report a rise of graffiti on campus



see page 4

The week ahead

This is the last issue of La Voz Weekly for the winter quarter.

But don't worry! La Voz Weekly will return April 20.

Registering for classes by March 26 may save students from having a class cancelled. The administration is reviewing all spring quarter classes and may cancel courses with low enrollment (under 20 people).

ARTIST CONSUELO JIMENEZ TO SPEAK

Participate in a conversation with Consuelo Jimenez Underwood, a professor of textile art at San Jose State University. She will discuss art, education, labor and community. Her work is included in the inaugural exhibition, "Looking Back, Looking Ahead," in the De Anza College Euphrat Museum of Art through April 16.

To participate come to the Euphrat Museum March 17 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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La Voz is a First Amendment newspaper, produced by students for the campus community of De Anza College

STUDENTS SLEEP FOUR NIGHTS ON CAMPUS

TO CAMPAIGN AGAINST BUDGET CUTS STUDENTS CAMPED OUT IN THE MAIN QUAD, RALLIED SUPPORT

Soheil Rezaee and Kelly Truong
LA VOZ NEWS

"Aren't you cold?" Student Matt Bradley heard that question multiple times over the course of last week, when he and approximately 15 other students set up camp in the Main Quad in order to increase awareness of the California budget cuts.

"I was smart," he said. "I brought an air mattress and blankets."

Bradley and others organized the demonstration, dubbed Tent City, as a symbol of what education means to students – the significance of school as a student's second home. "It shows that the school belongs to the students before it belongs to anyone else," he said.

Participants met at 8 p.m. on March 8 for the first of four nights. The tents housed between 12 to 20 people each night, with some students who were not initially involved joining in.

According to Bradley, one young

woman brought her own tent and joined them in the quad.

"I wasn't expecting the overwhelming positive reaction from students," he said. "I think the only negative comment we got was 'Those kids are crazy,' because it was so cold."

The demonstration was inspired by a similar event in 2003, when Students for Justice organized a campout protesting the layoffs of 70 classified staff members. However, this time, students planned the event independently of any one

organization, bringing their own tents, food and supplies.

"It gets (students) much more engaged," said student trustee Patrick Ahrens, who wasn't involved in the planning of the event. "When people see that it's De Anza Associated Student Body or a club on campus, they already have a built up idea of what it is and they keep on walking."

FLIP TO PAGE 3 FOR FULL STORY SEE "STUDENTS CAMP OUT AGAINST BUDGET CUTS"

Arts & Entertainment

THE REEL DEAL: CINEQUEST

A San Jose film festival featured talent from across the globe and De Anza College

was no exception

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Opinion

Journalism by the people for the people

Twitter allows citizen journalism to flourish

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Arts & Entertainment

Ribbon cutting ceremony

Visual and Performing Arts Center officially opens to the community

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News

Inter Club Council officials elected

Meet three new officials

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ATTENTION DE ANZA STUDENTS!!

OPEN EDITOR POSITIONS

- EDITOR IN CHIEF - PRINT
- EDITOR IN CHIEF - MULTIMEDIA
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- SPORTS EDITOR
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- A & E EDITOR
- MANAGING EDITOR
- NEWS EDITOR
- OP/ED EDITOR
- BROADCAST EDITOR
- PHOTO EDITOR

If interested in an editor position at La Voz for spring quarter, please email your 300 word (or less) letter of intent to Beth Grobman at grobman@fhda.edu. Deadline for submission is Friday, March 20 at noon. Interviews will be held finals week.

SIGN-UP FOR JOUR 61 NOW!!!

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District awaits May results for budget, education relief

Daniel Gamberg
LA VOZ NEWS

Foothill-De Anza College District administrators have their fingers crossed awaiting the results of two ballot propositions in this May's special election designed to relieve some budget pressure.

At the same time, administrators await the release of Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's May revision, which may increase the district's budget shortfall that was reduced from \$11 million to \$5.12 million in recent months.

"We're bare bones," District Chancellor Martha Kanter said. "Everyone in the district is doing more than their part."

If passed, the Education Funding Payment Plan Proposition 1B will provide \$250 million of immediate reinforcement by imposing a one percent increase in California's sales and use tax – a tax imposed to recover sales tax on items purchased outside the state – for community colleges this fiscal year according to proposition documentation.

Proposition funding would also provide long-term support through a supplemental one-cent per dollar increase in the state's sales and use tax equaling in \$561 million each year for community colleges.

Proposition 1C – the Lottery Modernization Act – increases State General Fund payments to community colleges by borrowing \$5 billion from the California Lottery.

In doing so, the state would increase the annual funding for community colleges each year, accounting for more students and higher living costs.

The district released their 18 month plan outlining how reductions will be carried out at each campus on Feb. 20.

The projections are just the foundation for a fluctuating budget plan that has all departments evaluating expenses while preserving education and minimizing the impact on faculty and staff.

As the district attempts to calculate the affects of a changing economy

and workforce, and an increasing student population, layoffs are the last resort when cutting costs.

"We're hoping that a lot of reduction can be done by attrition rather than layoffs," District Board of Trustees President Betsy Betchel said.

"We are evaluating our staff, looking at all possible ways to save money."

While administrators hope attrition – a voluntary process where employees retire or seek other employment – will account for some cutbacks, 76 positions will be eliminated by the end of June of next year.

The Middlefield Campus Travel Careers Program is the first area to experience layoffs.

Travel Careers Program Director and tenured faculty member Sharon Hack's term will expire in July of 2010.

Finding alternative district positions and other employment opportunities for displaced workers is a priority for college officials.

"This is a very humane process

to try to find other solutions for individuals," Kanter said.

"Any decision is a big decision because it's people's lives and that's the hardest part about this."

To prevent future layoffs the district is combining programs and transferring positions between campuses.

Foothill geology faculty member Christopher Di Leonardo will relocate from Foothill College to De Anza College July 1, after the reduction of his department.

The process of balancing the budget is expected to continue for nearly two years as the district receives and updates new information. The district will hold open forums and work with the community to resolve the upcoming budget shortage.

"Hopefully the state will get its act together and give us the revenue we need to educate our students," Kanter said. "It's an investment in the future of California." ▣

Daniel Gamberg is the web editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: web@lavozeanza.com.

>>Meeting Notes<<

DASB Senate

The De Anza College Associated Student Body Senate is the governing body for De Anza College students. It meets every Wednesday afternoon.

MARCH 11

WHAT HAPPENED: DASB President Terell Sterling delivered the state of the senate address. He encouraged senators to speak to random students, while detailing the main plans and issues for the spring quarter: the upcoming DASB election and amending the DASB constitution.

WHY THIS MATTERS: The DASB hopes that by interacting more with students, they will be able to represent all students. The DASB elections in spring will determine who will be on the DASB in the 2009-2010 school year. The DASB constitution has not been looked at since 1962.

WRITTEN BY SOHEIL REZAAE

Inter Club Council

The Inter Club Council is the governing body which allocates funds to De Anza College's more than 50 clubs. The ICC meets Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the Student Council Chambers.

MARCH 11

WHAT HAPPENED: Former ICC Chairs Kobe Gong, Lina Wang and Bo Yin appreciated individuals who contributed to the Inter Club Council. Among those mentioned were the ICC adviser, secretary, DASB and club officers. The new ICC Chair Peter Lin, ICC Chair of Finance Denise Nguyen and ICC Chair of Program Michael A. Terrassa were sworn in.

WHY THIS MATTERS: Peter Lin, Denise Nguyen and Michael A. Terrassa will officially be serving as the position of the ICC Chair from March 11 to March 10 of next year.

WRITTEN BY ANSON LAI

Police Log

VANDALISM

Location: Lot A
Friday, March 6 at 1:13 p.m.

MISSING PERSON

Missing person report
Location: Lot A
Saturday, March 7 at 12:16 a.m.

TRAFFIC HIT & RUN

Hit and run property/damage only
Location: Stelling Garage
Saturday, March 7 at 1:06 p.m.

BURGLARY

Location: Softball Field Lot
Sunday, March 8 at 2:29 p.m.

TRAFFIC COLLISION

Traffic accident - No Injuries
Location: Stelling Garage
Monday, March 9 at 10:46 a.m.

THEFT

Petty theft - under \$400
Location: Library - 1st Level
Tuesday, March 10 at 1:04 p.m.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Disturbing the peace
Location: Student Body Office
Tuesday, March 10 at 6:21 p.m.

INVESTIGATION

Pedestrian stop
Location: Hinson Campus Center
Tuesday, March 10 at 6:29 p.m.

Correction

The article "Extended Opportunity Programs Services forced to turn away students" in the Feb. 2 issue incorrectly stated that De Anza College Associated Student Body's Finance Committee denied EOPS \$39,000. The article should have stated this was a recommendation by the Finance Committee and will be voted on by the Senate.

continued from page 1 | Students camp out against budget cuts

Ahrens said he would have preferred that the Tent City organizers notify the administration and various college groups ahead of time.

"We had already talked to Brian Murphy," Bradley said. "Brian Murphy's approval was the go-ahead."

Before setting up the demonstration, the organizers wrote an open letter addressed to "Supporters of Education," in which they stated their goals to educate their peers about the state budget cuts.

While student Brittany Sims was disappointed that the school did not officially organize such an event, she felt that the grassroots nature of Tent City helped build student interest. "We're students as well," she said. "We're not some outside people coming in, we're not some mass of great authority. I'm me, talking to me."

The four-day demonstration gave Sims the opportunity to speak to a variety of students. "We got to meet students that you would have never met before," she said. "Something like that should be there continuously. Tea time – tea time at De Anza!"

During school hours, the Tent City participants passed out flyers and spoke to students about the budget cuts, encouraging them to join the March in March in Sacramento.

Sims remembers speaking to one particular young woman who stopped by to talk about the budget cuts. "She didn't know there was going to be a march," she said. "I pulled her in. She could have just passed by, but because of (the



PHOTO BY SOHEIL REZAAE/LA VOZ

Students Mo Shirazi and Jose Romero pass the time in Tent City. The demonstrators received several food donations from students.

tents), she stopped and she started to tell me about her specific situation."

Student participant Ernest Chavez said that several faculty members sent their students out to the tents to pick up flyers and sign up for the rally. "It created a buzz on campus," he said.

At night, the campers found several ways to occupy themselves, from reading political texts to playing Frisbee in the Main Quad at 2

a.m. The students camped out at De Anza from March 9 until March 12.

"It was building a community at a commuter school," Bradley said. "No matter what, it is the students' school." ▣

Soheil Rezaee is the news editor and Kelly Truong is the opinions editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact them at: news@lavozeanza.com and opinions@lavozeanza.com respectively.

Campus Snapshot



PHOTO BY PATRICK GARTNER/LA VOZ

Students beware, Canadian geese may approach your food, indicating the recession affects all species.

Increase in graffiti, takes money from students

Patrick Gartner
LA VOZ NEWS

A small tag on a blue recycle bin, the fresh bitter-sweet acetone smell lingering in bathrooms are just a few signs around campus that graffiti at De Anza College is a surfacing problem.

"We have seen an increase in graffiti over the past few weeks," said Ron Levine, chief of the Foothill-De Anza College District Police Department.

"Due to the amount of graffiti we have been made aware of, I would say that it is a problem on campus at this moment in time."

While campus police continue to pour time, money and paint into clean up efforts, the issue of vandalism and how to prevent its spread on campus remains unresolved.

"Graffiti appears to be cyclical," Levine said. "Sometimes it's politically motivated, other times it's gang related (and) other times it's tagging crews doing their thing."

"I can't give you a valid reason for increases and decreases on the campus," he said.

According to a 2001 study by the Landscape and Human Health Laboratory of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "buildings with high levels of greenery had 48 percent fewer property crimes and 56 percent fewer violent crimes."

The study hints at what could be the reason for De Anza's recent graffiti problem.

"It's only common sense to realize that our surrounding environment affects our attitude and behavior," said Vu-Duc Vuong, De Anza sociology instructor.

"This study only reinforces that



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY NITZAN BECK/LA VOZ

De Anza College campus police have seen an increase of graffiti requiring the use of valuable resources the past few months.

belief. I'd say that it's reasonable to expect that if De Anza is greener, in several meanings of the word, graffiti may become less of a problem."

Almost a year has passed since the large L quad trees were removed and replaced with a few sapplings leaving the area stripped barren and concrete looking.

"I think graffiti comes from people who are bored and want to express themselves artistically," said Shimena Stokes, a De Anza nursing student.

"I think that if you want to outlaw graffiti you should also provide an outlet for it."

"I see it all as a crime," Levine said, "that takes good money away from the educational system spent on clean up efforts, instead of where it belongs, providing quality education and services to the students." **LV**

Patrick Gartner is a Staff Reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: patrickgartner@lavozeanza.com

Journalist speaks about Jerusalem, Gaza conflict with journalism students

Soheil Rezaee
LA VOZ NEWS

Students in journalism instructor Brad Kava's Journalism 21 A and B classes along with guests, had the opportunity to learn about journalism in the Middle East from Etgar Lefkovits, correspondent for the Jerusalem Post, on March 9.

The audience packed room L-42 just to hear about Lefkovits experience reporting in the Middle East and his perception of the ongoing Arab-Israeli Conflict.

Lefkovits began his lecture by talking about his early life and his experience as a reporter in Jerusalem.

"Covering Jerusalem is different from covering any other city in the world," he said.

He talked about the situation with the Arab-Israeli Conflict along with the current situation in the Palestinian Territory involving Hamas' ongoing war with Fatah in the Gaza Strip.

The biggest focus was on how Hamas had shattered any possibility of peace or any economic growth in the Gaza Strip.

Lefkovits talked about what he described as the West's misunderstanding of the Arab-Israeli Conflict by viewing it as a simple argument with a simple solution.

He felt that peace could be accomplished, but it would require more than just the simple signing of treaties. It requires the development of an understanding on the ground while discrediting groups like Hamas.

"Peace is not accomplished with cocktail parties at the Waldorf Astoria but on the ground," said

Lefkovits.

Lefkovits also spoke about the positive activities going on in Israel, primarily the advancements in technology, booming tourist industry and rich history. "Its unfair to paint a picture of gloom and doom," he said.

After Lefkovits finished sharing his journalistic experiences with students, the audience asked about his experiences and opinions of the situation in the Middle East.

When the event ended, several audience members remained to ask more questions or learn more about Lefkovits.

"He was very detailed and explained things well," said Maya Kostyanovsky, co-president of the Jews, Israeli and Friends Club. "I really enjoyed hearing his talk and I thought he did a great job," she said.

Lefkovits was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois, where he attended the University of Chicago before transferring to the University of Jerusalem where he studied

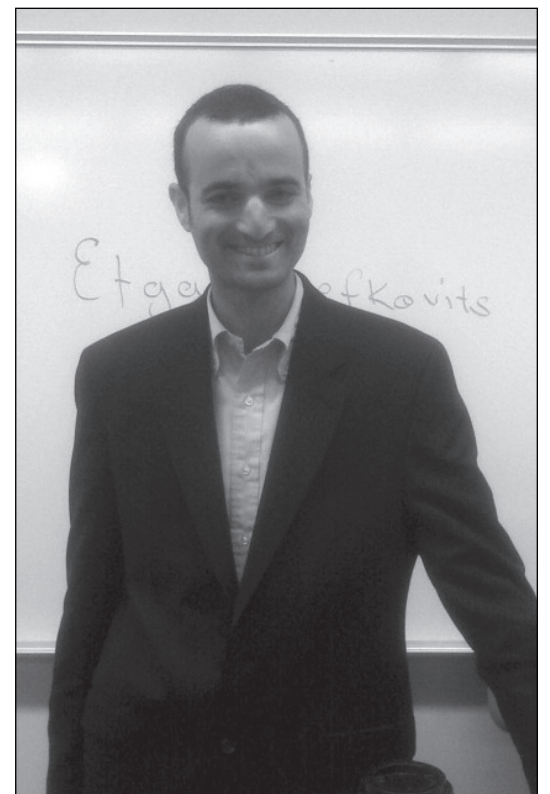


PHOTO BY AMY FRANKLIN/LA VOZ
Middle East journalist and Jerusalem Post's correspondent Etgar Lefkovits spoke to news and feature writing students about his experience overseas in journalism instructor Brad Kava's classes Monday March 9.

literature.

He began his career with a Japanese newspaper before being hired at the Jerusalem Post.

The event was hosted by the Jews, Israeli and Friends Club. **LV**

Soheil Rezaee is the News Editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: news@lavozeanza.com



De Anza Associated Student Body

2008-2009 Senate Election

Positions to be elected:

(21) Senator positions

President

Executive Vice President

Vice President of Budget & Finance

Vice President of Student Rights & Campus Relations

Vice President of Administration

Vice President of Marketing & Communications

Vice President of Diversity & Events

Vice President of Student Services

Vice President of Campus Environment Sustainability

Take the Lead. Make a Difference

Take part in 40 years of tradition and leadership through the DASB Senate.

Make a difference on campus by running for a position in the DASB.

Applications are available at the DASB Senate Office

DASB Card Student Discounts



red mango.

10% off our yogurt/blenders



10% off



10% off



10% off



10% off



15% off



Buy 1 game & get 2nd free



frozenyogurtbar

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10% off



10% off



25% off



15% off



10% off

Fore more discounts access: <http://deanza.edu/dasb/discounts.html>

Final Giveaway March 17, 18, 19 10:30AM - 6:30PM @ Cafeteria
- Receive free scantrons, parscores, & blue books with your DASB Card -

A grim fable



stephenZILL

**Opinion:
Economics
for Everyone**

I was trying to decide what to write about considering the cornucopia of choices thanks to the recent global economic upheaval. So I figured a review of the tumultuous events of the recent past would be in order put into fable form instead of a mundane rehash of events. (Note: any similarity to real persons, living, dead or somewhere in between, is purely coincidental).

Once upon a time in a land not so far away – let’s call that magical place, the United State of Amnesia – it was most everyone’s dream, who was fortunate enough to reside in such an enchanted land, to own their own cottage (we often refer to them as “home(s)”). For a time, due to a number of “magic potions” that were whipped-up by what appeared to be a community of “good” wizards – the Community Reinvestment Act which, lax regulation, low interest rates, an array of arrangements such as no-doc, adjustable rate mortgages and ninja loans, unscrupulous lenders, and a system generally awash with cash – made it appear as though that dream would come true for (almost) all the inhabitants of that village of 300 million. Happy Amnesians went into debt as home prices continued to pile up.

Around the same time a couple of events were taking place that very few paid much attention to, but would later have catastrophic results. One involved a group of seemingly innocuous wizards of finance from afar who were cavorting about in their structured investment vehicles, potentially infecting society by spreading their sundry communicable devices, aka financial derivatives, such as mortgage backed securities and collateralized debt obligations. In addition, unbeknownst to most – except for example, Sir Robert of Shiller – storm clouds began to build up on the horizon, which out of would eventually pour a torrent, not of rain drops, but cottage prices.

What follows is not for the faint of heart. When the storm clouds burst and cottage prices began to plummet toward earth, a chain reaction set in. The first to see their dream slip away were many of those benefiting from many of the magic elixirs listed above – subprime borrowers. Other homeowners would soon be affected as well.

And as cottage prices continued to plummet, and the diseases from the derivatives began to spread, the land suddenly found itself invaded by terrifying giant zombie banks and one more-dead-than-alive insurance giant.

Almost over night the magical landscape seemed far from enchanted and underwent events so cataclysmic, that a former chief “great” wizard, referred to by many as “The Maestro”, admitted to having an apparent philosophical flaw, and that the village’s goldsmiths (what we would consider banks) be taken over by their government. This would cause Atlas to not only shrug, but temporarily, bobble the earth.

Yet, children, before thou’st fall into despair, all was not lost after all. The newly elected Prince of the land, O’Bama heard the clarion call and gathered about him the greatest of minds and bravest of souls, who swept aside the previous regime’s ineffectual attempts to save its denizens, and working swiftly and decisively, came thundering out of their fortresses, bringing the walking-dead banks back to life, and slaying the derivatives dragon and the evil it had wrought, and as a result, calming our “bad” animal spirits and reviving our “good.” And since I’m pretty much out of room ... they lived happily ever after.

Granted the last part of the story is indeed a fairy tale. And first impressions don’t exactly cause me to be terribly optimistic. Be sure to check back spring quarter to see how our fable unfolds. ▀

Stephen Zill is a professor of economics at De Anza College.

Inter Club Council officials elected

Amy Franklin
LA VOZ NEWS

The Inter Club Council elected new chair members for the upcoming 2009-2010 academic year.

ICC club representatives and members joined on its Feb. 18 and 25 meetings to hear the candidates give speeches and answer questions presented to them.

Peter Lin was elected ICC chair on the Feb. 18 meeting. Incumbent chair members Shuo “Kobe” Gong, ICC chair, Lina Wang, ICC chair of finance and Bo Yin, chair of programs led the meetings.

Gong said hopes to see Lin spend

more time with different clubs and develop relationships with their members. “The feedback would help my colleagues and I to do a better job on facilitating club events and getting more students involved on campus,” Gong said. He also hopes to see Lin add more events for students and clubs to participate in during his term.

Elections continued Feb. 25 for chair of finance and programs positions. Three candidates running for each position gave a speech and answered questions from the council and club members. After two rounds of votes, Diep Nguyen was elected as chair of finance and Michael

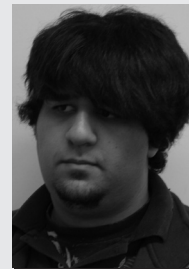
Terrasas as chair of programs.

As the ICC chair of programs, Bo said he would have liked to spend more time with club members in order to retrieve feedback in order to encourage more students to involve themselves in ICC.

“The ICC is currently serving 60-plus clubs on campus. The promotion of the ICC should let more students know that college life is not only studying, but also getting involved and having fun, such as volunteering, playing sports or having dinner together,” Bo said.

Amy Franklin is associate editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at: associate@lavozeanza.com

Front page a waste of precious time



soheilREZAAE

**Opinion:
As the
World Burns**

In a perfect world, if one were to turn on the news, they would be able to learn about all the issues affecting this small little world. The news would enlighten us and awake the public from their sleep of ignorance.

Of course, that is only in a perfect world. But instead, the front page shows celebrities having meltdowns, someone’s personal life, a DUI, hilarious YouTube videos, the death of someone historically insignificant, missing white girls or cute animals that do the most adorable things.

You might think now that Barack Obama is president, things might get a little better but the sad reality is nothing much has changed except for a few wars and the body count of the world.

While on the topic of Obama, his amazing victory has been all over the news for its historical significance along with the symbolism that has been created around his image. What is not important is all the random trivial items that have made CNN such as the new dog or where Obama likes to eat.

The people had elected Obama to help rebuild the economy, since at the moment families are struggling to survive in these troubled times. Correction, real families who live in real homes as opposed to some wealthy families who were struggling to save their cave house.

While helpless families are getting evicted and tossed to the streets, there was a lot of attention given to only one family just because they had some cave house, compared to a simple home in a simple neighborhood.

But what is amazing is that while the inauguration of Obama (a major historical event) was on Wikipedia’s home page for only a day, while the birth of quintuplets was on the home page for more than a week.

What became even more annoying was the constant news reports of how the mother was doing and the struggle she was going through. It’s funny, one woman is able to squeeze eight out and it becomes national news, but when my buddy takes the longest dump nobody on MySpace is interested.

Most people seem to have forgotten what giving birth to quintuplets really is: A burden you could have flushed months ago but decided to keep, so the weight won’t be lifted until they either go to college, Hollywood or prison.

However this is nothing compared to the hype created by Stephen Fowler’s appearance on “Wife Swap.” The treatment of Gayla Long was cruel, but it was not something worth being on the news.

It appears that most people forgot about the natural contract of reality television where the minute someone signs on to a show, they officially become a national clown for our entertainment.

While ragging on reality television, one has to ask why does who got voted off American Idol always seem to make the news (especially Fox News)? How does some talent less nobody getting booted off a mediocre show is as worthy as the conflicts of the Middle East or the crumbling economy?

I’m sure everyone has heard people nagging about media reform for a better democracy and it’s because what’s on the news is just a good enough reason for anyone to ask God to take away their sense of sight, sound and reason just to avoid the hot topic issues on Lucifer’s dream box.

With the current trends of celebrities going insane or unnecessary news about quintuplets, one would just want to get excited about sitting back and watching as the world burns. ▀

Soheil Rezaee is the news and features editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: features@lavozeanza.com.

Meet your new ICC Chairs for 2009-10



Diep Nguyen

A business major with a concentration in finance, 19-year-old Diep Nguyen appears to be an ideal candidate for the ICC’s head of finance.

“I have experience in communication and a background in finance,” Nguyen said.

Nguyen loves volunteering, working with others, and plans to put forth all effort and enthusiasm in her job as chair of finance. She is also part of De Anza’s International Student Volunteers organization.

In her upcoming term as chair of finance, Nguyen would like to help increase student participation in the ICC and hopes to improve the ICC activities and maintain them properly.

“I would like more and more creative activities created to serve and enrich for students’ campus life,” Nguyen said.

Nguyen’s concern on the ICC’s current situation is the quality of clubs rather than quantity. She thinks many clubs are created too easily, and would prefer in the long run to increase quality of existing clubs to maintain student interest.

Nguyen is eager to jump into her participation with club members and activities.

“I’m looking for a better community with a strong union between ICC and clubs,” Nguyen said.



Peter Lin

One thing Peter Lin knows is that being the new ICC chair will call for more sleep so that he is rested for his new job.

Lin, 18, is majoring in business administration, which should be helpful while taking on this new task. He is also part of the Taiwanese Student Association and Honors Club.

While ICC chair, Lin hopes to increase club participation as well as social activities for students at De Anza College. “I would like to make the ICC more student friendly as well as make clubs more accessible to De Anza students,” Lin said.

Although Lin believes the current officers have been successful in making the ICC a friendlier atmosphere, he would like to make sure that the ICC becomes more aggressive in terms of spreading club awareness.

“I want to replace past ICC events that have not been as successful and replace them with new ones that will be more effective,” Lin said.

Lin says that he has a strong respect for diversity and feels he is a strong leader. “I won’t wait a second for people whose voices have been silenced,” he said.

“I am looking forward to meeting the diverse groups that De Anza has to offer as well as learning their culture and ideas.”



Michael Terrasas

Running a youth group and staying active in many student organizations, 22-year-old Michael Terrasas will be busy this upcoming quarter as chair of programs.

He is actively involved in Christians on Campus, Saltworks Christian Fellowship, Fusu and the Japanese Student Association.

As the ICC chair of programs, Terrasas expects to make the ICC’s presence known to De Anza College students.

He would like to start an outreach program, targeting students who are not yet involved in the Council. Terrasas hopes to increase the ICC membership by 100 to 200 students during his term.

“I look forward to bringing the clubs together for celebrations such as Club Day,” Terrasas said.

Although Terrasas acknowledges the occasional conflicting opinions among ICC members and is aware that there will be times students do not mesh well, he believes all members need to work together and hopes to help in that process.

“I am motivated to do this and I will put my heart and mind into it,” Terrasas said.

“I look forward to seeing what works and going for it.”

African American students speak out

Sandra Westdahl
LA VOZ NEWS

In celebration of Black History Month, four African American students and an instructor praised the impact the faculty and programs at De Anza College have had on allowing minority groups to succeed. The event, “Black Students at De Anza Speak Out: A lesson for out teachers” took place on Feb. 24. But the panel also discussed race as a prevailing issue on campus.

In room A in the Campus Center 20 people gathered to listen to Truly Hunter, assistant director of Extended Opportunities Programs and Services, and host of the event. Next to her sat student Cory Williams.

“It’s tough being an African

American student at De Anza,” Williams said. He spoke of the importance for teachers to understand the history of African Americans. When lecturing about slavery for example, Williams noticed that some instructors exclude or avoid making eye contact with him. In situations, such as these, he wishes he could be treated as any other student.

Shumeka Reid, another student on the panel said she felt exposed by her English instructor during a class discussion on African American hair types. When Reid, the only African American student, gave her opinion on the matter the instructor cut her off. It hurt her feelings, she said.

EOPS and Student Success and

Retention Services are important because they motivate African American students to complete their educational goals. The programs understand the many issues African American students confront, said Williams, who is engaged in the SSRS program.

The students in the panel also had positive experiences about being an African American student. Kenny Dorsey said ever since she started taking classes at De Anza she has received support from various faculty members, such as Tao Lan. Attending De Anza and being successful have been a great experience, she said smiling. ▀

Sandra Westdahl is a student at De Anza College.

ENTERTAINMENT

Cloudy day brightened by short and sweet ribbon cutting ceremony



PHOTO BY AMY FRANKLIN/LA VOZ

De Anza Student Body President Terell Sterling had the honor of cutting the ribbon among administration and other officials at the official ceremony.

James Chen
LA VOZ NEWS

Immediately after stepping off Bus 13 and onto the cold, dull gray De Anza College parking lot, you would have noticed something about the morning of March 6 was different.

Though the mottled clouds still blocked out the sun light, and the campus itself was almost dead, ears heard of a different tale than the mundane atmosphere that otherwise permeated the campus.

Jazz notes, as colorful as the building itself, trilled out from the

front of the Visual and Performing Arts Center. The music was bright, painting a vivid contrast to the muted colors around it, and as sharp as the cold air of the morning.

A crowd slowly gathered around Steve Tyler and the De Anza Daddios Combo, lingering around the chairs and the ribboned entrance of the newly constructed building.

The purpose of the jazz band's presence was immediately obvious: at 10 in the morning, the newly built VPAC of De Anza, in all its bright orange glory, officially opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

A few of the Bay Area's political

figures attended the ceremony. Orrin Mahoney, Cupertino's mayor, the mayors of Mountain View and Sunnyvale, and representatives from San Jose and the state government were present.

Sterling's height humor at the expense of chancellor Martha Kanter came off as intended, and the use of a stepstool managed to get a few chuckles from the audience and speakers, further lightening the mood.

As noted by President Brian Murphy, and echoed by most of the speakers, the very outward orientation of the arts center and

Euphrat Museum was meant to symbolize its openness not only to the students and faculty of De Anza, but to the Bay Area community - at large. And perhaps the ceremony itself could be said to adhere to that principle.

The levity of the ceremony and the shortness of it, the latter of which was perhaps partially driven by the increasing drizzle three-quarters of the way through, kept the ceremony from being bogged down by tedium.

The most important part of the agenda, it would seem, was not the speeches, or even the perfunctory

ribbon cutting, but the tour of the VPAC.

As for the building, though often mocked for the external color scheme, it is very noticeable, very vivid, even amongst the gloom, and cannot be derided for its internal design.

Though outwardly awkward, there is no doubt that the VPAC and the Euphrat Museum will successfully serve De Anza — and the Bay Area — for years to come. ▀

James Chen is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: jameschen@lavozeanza.com.

Grand evening at the Euphrat



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FRANCISCO GARCIA

The inaugural exhibition featured a 92-year-old artist Paul Pei-Jen Hau (left).



Executive director of Euphrat museum Jan Rindfleisch (right) with a proclamation signed by Mayor Orrin Mahoney.



Students at the event were excited about the opening night.

Inspiring evening in the VPAC theatre



Lina Kwon
LA VOZ NEWS

A full house of 400 friends, families and dancers, an empty stage with a pre-lit spotlight and chattering voices awaited me in the Visual and Performing Arts Centers' theatre Wednesday evening.

As I scattered through people in the aisles to get to an open seat, I could not help myself but notice the liveliness surrounding me ... the

what is known as floor barre; which is a moderation of classical ballet barre work and closely resembles Pilates with kicks and extensions.

"Come on ballet people ... now it's your turn. Show them what you've got," Lucas casually progressed the show. I expected ballet dancers in tutu's but instead I got dancers in informal clothing of black and purple. I didn't mind. It was relaxed and untailored, easy to watch.

Ballet dancers did some floor com-

Ballet's performance in my book: the love for the art form and the genuine happiness that comes with it. This is something amateur and professional dancers share and no level of technique or scale of performance could hinder or afford.

For instance, the social dance students that came on stage repeat the same eight counts over and over again, but I couldn't take my eyes off the stage. Not because every one of the dancers had the steps down

A moment of congratulations to everyone...

genuine joy. You know, the kind where no obvious smiles are necessary?

"Hey folks ... this is the real deal!" Warren Lucas, dance instructor at De Anza College, exclaimed through the babbling voices in the audience.

My heart thumped fast and hard in hopes of a great show. What followed the anticipation were no Broadway or America's Best Dance Crew, but amateur student dancers showing off what they have been working on all quarter long.

Grand opening of the evening, students from Janet Shaw's Body Awareness for Dancers class took center stage. With a little narration by Professor Shaw off stage, dancers lie on stage showing the process of

binations of pirouettes, tendus and port de bras. (In others words, turns, feet work and arm movements.)

Then followed the "rebellion against classical ballet," the contemporary pieces. First was Vernon Gallegos' class with an organized choreography and matching costumes of black and white. Second was Maria Basile's class with a more casual across the floors. Not to say that one was better than the other, but Basile's contemporary dancers gave me butterflies as if I were on stage. Maybe it was because I really wanted to be on stage with them or perhaps their love of dance touched me. Who knows?

But, this was a reoccurring theme of the evening, love of dance. The only reason why this performance could compete with San Francisco

nor because they were the best set of dancers I had ever seen, but because their love of dance shined through. An aspect no money or time could ever buy.

The most notable performance of the evening was by the hip-hop dance crew of about 80 dancers. With Gallegos' cue, dancers rushed on stage from all corners of the theatre and wowed the audience with a well choreographed, well rehearsed, synchronized piece. A clap at the beginning of the choreography nearly blew me away, literally. ▀

Lina Kwon is the A&E editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at: arts@lavozeanza.com.

MOVIE EXPERIENCE:

CINEQUEST

LA VOZ EXPLORES

A tribute to De Anza College Flm/TV Department faculty & students who participated in this year's Cinequest Film Festival:

Samuel Cheung's humorous short film "Laundry" and Gustav Asplund's self-discovery short film "In Search for I" was shown at this year's event. Screenwriting instructor Barak Goldman co-chaired this year's screenplay competition. Film/TV Department chair person Zaki Lisha and film history instructor Susan Tavernetti judged at this year's event for the winning films.

Patrick Gartner
LA VOZ NEWS

DAY 1: FEB. 28

My journey at Cinequest began Saturday, February 28. Armed with nothing but a press pass I made way to the San Jose Repertory Theatre. Overwhelmed with choices I decided to stay at the Rep and attend the "Marriage of Television and Internet Forum," moderated by Kathleen J. Powell.

Before the forum began, Cinequest's Executive Director Haldfan Hussey walked on stage to introduce the forum panel. The panel discussed and displayed the new and emerging technologies that filmmakers are going to be using in the future to market and distribute their films. I began to wonder how festivals such as Cinequest are going to stay relevant if the internet technology is advancing at such a fast rate. The forum ended and I decided it was time to check out my first film. A Russian film, "The Bet" was about to begin at Camera 12.

"The Bet" is a movie based on the short story by Anton Chekhov, in which an employee tries to prove to his boss that he would rather live a life behind bars than face a death sentence. This hypothetical conversation leads to a bet between the two. The young man agrees to become the boss' prisoner for 15 years at the price of \$15 million. However, if the employee cannot finish his time, he must work for free for the rest of his life. The bet becomes an obsession between the two men that imprisons them both. Although the end of the film was on the ambiguous side, it did a good job of portraying the

pain of the original story.

When "The Bet" was over, I walked out of the theatre and spotted Hussey. Hussey spoke with me about some of the questions I had left over from the forum.

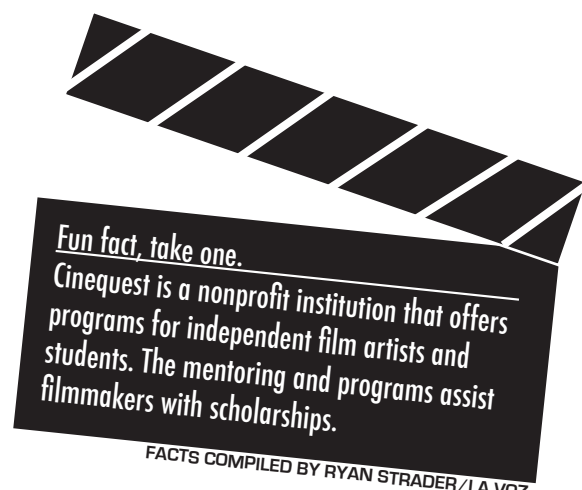
Although I had more questions to ask Hussey, he was busy and politely ended the interview. I continued my journey out of the theatre and back into the Paseo. Outside, I spotted a slightly unusual sight. A young man with a toy-microphone taped to his head was holding a sign that said "Free Couch Rides." At the same time a young woman was taking pictures of two people who were ferrying patrons across the sidewalk on an old orange-wheeled coach. These strange young people turned out to be makers of the film, "Billy Was a Deaf Kid."

The woman taking pictures was named Candyce Foster. She sat with me and granted me an impromptu interview about her experience so far at Cinequest.

After my interview with Foster, the group gave me free passes to see their Monday night screening of the film. By now it was time for grub.

After dinner I made my way to the newly renovated California Theatre to see the last movie of the night, "How To Be." This film is directed by British newcomer Oliver Irving and stars British heart-throb Rob Pattinson (star of the film, "Twilight"). The movie follows the nervous breakdown of a young man suffering a quarter-life crisis in London.

Oliver Irving had made a high quality film. It was funny, smart and unique. Irving stuck around for a Q & A - which embarrassingly enough consisted of young girls gushing about Pattinson. Irving began to sign autographs, and thirty minutes later, granted me an interview, ending my first day at Cinequest 19.



DAY 2: MARCH 2

My girlfriend and I used the free passes to see the final screening of "Billy Was a Deaf Kid". This film follows a relationship between a very bizarre young couple stuck in the middle of nowhere.

The movie played like Napoleon Dynamite and would be enjoyed by the same fans.

I found it funny that there is a new film genre emerging from Utah and Idaho that I can only describe as an Indy-Mormon-Comedy.

As per usual, the filmmakers were there to answer questions from the audience.

DAY 3: MARCH 8

This was the last day of Cinequest 19. I started my day by heading over to the Camera 12 theatres to screen "The Last Lullaby." This movie stars Tom Sizemore and is the feature length debut of Director Jeffrey Goodman. Before the movie began, Goodman came out and introduced his film. He spoke briefly about where the original story came from and how much this project meant to him personally.

The movie follows the last "job" of a retired hit man, who ends up falling in love with his target. Although the story isn't very original, the actors gave the best performances out of all the films I saw. "The Last Lullaby" was the best movie I had seen so far. However, this was only my first film of the day.

After the Q & A session I met with Goodman to get his perspective on the festival and his experience as a director making his Cinequest debut.

With a couple hours to go until the finale of the festival I decided to pass the time by sneaking into the theatre next door which was screening the Mexican film "Euphoria."

Even though it is a cliché to use the term "unique brand of humor", I honestly do not know of another way to describe "Euphoria." The over arching sympathy for an over the hill rock star as he comes face to face with his past demons is delivered in a way that makes anyone watching the film burst out laughing. This was a unique and funny film. Sadly, "Euphoria" was the only film where the filmmakers were not present to go through a Q & A with the audience.

Before the final film began, Haldfan Hussey made his way onto the stage to kick off the closing ceremony. All the filmmakers who were still in town were allowed on stage to

receive an uproarious standing ovation for their films. After, Director Roger Nygard and producers Paul Tarantino and Billy Sullivan took the stage to introduce their labor of love, "The Nature of Existence." Roger Nygard has worked in entertainment for years and is most famous for writing on the HBO series "Curb Your Enthusiasm."

"The Nature of Existence" is a documentary following Roger Nygard as he asks the most important questions about the nature of existence and the universe. In the film he speaks with leaders in religion and science around the world. This documentary is a great film to watch if you've ever asked yourself: "Why do I exist?"

The filmmakers stuck around for another Q & A session. What made this Q & A session special is that two of the people interviewed in the film (an evangelical street preacher and an atheistic Los Angeles comedian) stuck around for a live sequel to the debate they had within the film.

As the debate ended, we were told to make our way over to the E & O Trading Co. for the Cinequest 19 Closing Night Gala. There, press members and film fans were able to rub shoulders and dance with producers, actors and filmmakers.

During the drive home I reflected on my experience at Cinequest 19. Anyone who has not attended a film festival like this has truly missed out on a wonderful opportunity. It is rare that audience members have the opportunity to speak with the artists and visionaries so directly. The environment that a film festival provides is one that unites filmmakers and film lovers. I cannot wait until Cinequest 20.



PHOTO BY RYAN STRADER/LA VOZ

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Athlete of the Week: Kim Kilgroe

Record breaking Steeplechaser

Amy Franklin
LA VOZ NEWS

Blended beets and carrots don't mix well.

But for student-athlete Kim Kilgroe, 19, it ignited her passion for health and nutrition in middle school. Currently, she is on the De Anza College Track & Field team and in her final quarter.

Her parents told her to blend the mixed vegetables into her Jack LaLanne Power Juice to improve her health.

"Health is an acquired taste,"



PHOTO BY AMY FRANKLIN/LA VOZ

Kilgroe said. "I've learned to like a lot of things that I didn't like before."

It appears the blended drinks worked. Kilgroe recently broke the school record in the 3000-meter Steeplechase. She also qualified for the Northern California Track Championships in six different events – more than anyone else on the current squad.

Kilgroe's habits make her stand out among the rest. She can be seen warming up in bright red or purple leggings before a meet.

"It makes me feel bold," Kilgroe said. "And it brings out my bright yellow and green spikes."

Kilgroe has a set of rituals prior to

her event. She paints her nails black to make her feel tough, an idea she got after reading about another runner in Runner's World magazine. You can often find her in the bleachers listening to techno music prior to her events, while chewing Jelly-Belly Sports Beans.

"They are mostly just an excuse to eat candy before a meet," Kilgroe said.

Healthy eating habits are something she picked up from her parents. Majoring in nutrition, her family's active lifestyle was a huge motivation for her physical fitness.

Kilgroe wants to be a nutritionist, specializing in childhood obesity and educating children of their eating habits. Her own eating habits are transparent in her frequent visits to Whole Foods.

She didn't like other sports growing up, except swimming. She

finds the individuality aspect of running, while also being part of a team, her favorite thing about the sport. When running gets hard, the thought of victory is an extra push she often needs to finish.

After leaving De Anza track, Kilgroe said she would like to be remembered for the record she broke at San Francisco State on Saturday, March 7 in the 3000-meter Steeplechase and hopes to compete in every event which not many athletes do.

"Kim has really worked hard to develop into the athlete she is right now. Her hard work is really starting to pay off for her," said head coach Nick Mattis.

Amy Franklin is the associate editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact her at: associate@lavozeanza.com.

Sports, academics two of a kind

Quan Luong
LA VOZ NEWS

Foothill and De Anza College researchers found that De Anza athletes have a higher grade point average than other full-time students.

According to the Institutional Research, De Anza athletes have an average GPA of 3.22 over the past three years.

They have even broken down the GPA of the different ethnicities.

Compared to full-time African-American students, an African-American athlete's GPA is over half a point higher, the largest difference. Hispanic student-athletes have a 3.11 cumulative GPA, whereas full-time Hispanic students have a 2.64 GPA.

"I'm glad to see that the student-athletes are doing extremely well with their education and keeping their grades up," said Athletic Director Kulwant Singh.

"I'm not surprised to hear that the athletes are doing better than the full-time students, Academic Advisor Matt Trospier said. "It's not only a trend here at De Anza, but a nationwide trend. The lessons learned as a student-athlete

carries over to how they perform in the classrooms and ultimately to be successful in life. These lessons are hard-work, time management, working under pressure, teamwork, leadership, accepting and working with many types of people from all kinds of backgrounds."

According to Singh, all the De Anza coaches, staff and the administration are eager to assist the student-athletes in academics and sports.

The De Anza student athletes have received exposure to university coaches and opportunities to acquire athletic scholarships.

"The student-athletes are among the hardest working students on campus," Trospier said. "Roughly 87 percent transfer to four-year universities after De Anza. Some of those go on to compete as student-athletes at the university they transfer to and others continue on as students getting their bachelor's degree."

The athletes have been successful in transferring to a four-year university to pursue their goals. Some were awarded with both athletic and academic scholarships.

"If the student-athletes want to

succeed, they need to push themselves harder if they're going to be successful in life," said Trospier.

"Matt and the coaches have been a good influence on the student-athletes, encouraging them to work harder so they could be more successful in life," Singh said. "But it doesn't mean the athletes would spend all on their time doing homework or practice. They give themselves some time to hang out with their friends and relax."

"Our coaches here at De Anza must take the credit of our student-athletes' success," Trospier said. "They mostly care about how their student-athletes succeed. I provide academic advisement to student-athletes and monitor their progress. I'd be available to make sure they would receive the assistance they might need such as tutoring, financial aid and counseling services. But if it weren't for our coaches and their dedication to see the student-athletes succeed, we wouldn't see this kind of GPA that our student-athletes have." ■

Quan Luong is the assistant sports editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: assistantsports@lavozeanza.com.

Winter Sports Review: Basketball

Quan Luong
LA VOZ NEWS

The men and women's basketball teams this season had their share of ups and downs. The men endured a long losing streak, while the women fell just short of making the playoffs.

The men's team finished 2-27 overall and 1-11 in Coast Conference South and last place. The women finished in third place in conference play with a record of 8-4 and 15-15 overall.

To qualify for the Nor-Cal Regional playoffs, a team must rank in the top 18 in the regional standings to be eligible. The women's team was just one spot shy ending the season in 19

place in the region.

The men's team was led by forwards Kris Gingrich and Adam Close and guards Melvin Sneed and Jeremy Rios they shined through on what was a dismal 2-27 season.

Gingrich finished the season with 319 points, 140 rebounds, 17 assists and three double-doubles. Close had 269 points, 184 rebounds, 29 assists and six double-doubles.

Sneed finished with 373 points, 161 rebounds, 30 assists and six double-doubles. Rios had 193 points, 52 rebounds and 79 assists.

The Lady Dons' Sherina Summers, Desiree Collins, Lisa Rhett and Kathleen De La Cruz were a huge impact for their team, which finished

15-15 overall.

Summers had 366 points, 218 rebounds, 54 assists and seven double-doubles, and Collins had 278 points, 249 rebounds, 64 assists and seven double-doubles.

Rhett finished the regular season with 264 points, 129 rebounds and 39 assists, and De La Cruz had 235 points, 69 rebounds and 40 assists.

As of the end of the 2008-09 season, Jason Damjanovic's overall coaching record now stands at 51-69, while women's head coach Arden Kragalott moves her record to 78-62. ■

Quan Luong is the assistant sports editor for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: assistantsports@lavozeanza.com.

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IT'S NEW TO ME

Review: Demoscene is poetry in binary

James Chen
LA VOZ NEWS

It's a mesmerizing blend of graphical mastery and electronica – a post-apocalyptic hiss of static reverberating down snaking, rusted pipes, twisting through a derelict urban environment. Alien, non-euclidian structures flow in tandem with a lo-fi bass line, others twisting and disturbingly organic. The industrial rhythm crescendos, the world flakes apart like polluted

snow, leaving blinding white space behind, sinking into itself, until all that's left is space.

What is it? Demoscene. What is that? A non interactive visual display on the computer which incorporates audio, visual and artistic skills. Wikipedia says it is a computer art subculture. I like to describe it as a computer graphics version of DJ remixes. One combines music, programming and art to create a new work, or a demoscene.

The history stems from the days when the Commodore C64 and Amiga PCs were state-of-the-art technology, and when teenagers skirted the law with copy parties to mass-distribute the latest floppy-disk softwares.

It was art for art's sake, a matter of pushing primitive computing software to its very limits. It was competitive – a matter of bragging rights, and a means of settling disputes over which system was arguably the superior plat-

form.

It was perhaps the first true new form of art in the budding era of digital technology, combining a paradoxical mix of minimalistic resource usage with maximal output complexity.


It set the standards for computer graphics as art, and many of the lessons learned in its formulating years are still applied, sometimes relearned, by both the game and movie industries as digital graphic mastery becomes not only more important to their works, but outright vital.

Though Moore's Law's effect on computer hardware has removed much of the physical barriers on digital arts, the industries' drive towards greater detail, greater realism and more sheer computational power means that the lessons of minimalism will never go out of vogue.

It would be a mistake to talk of demoscene in past tense – for it is still thriving, even after its original practitioners have grown older and gone elsewhere.

Demoscene enthusiasts are still congregating by the hundreds, even thousands, at conventions throughout Europe and even the United States, schlepping tables and chairs and hulking, LED-lighted computers – or hulking beige-yellow antiques, as old-school demoscenes are still popular competition formats.

It's dim, it's loud and industrial electronica booms from every corner. The sharp tang of spilled beer and meaty scent of roasting hot dogs drift in from the outside tailgate party – demoscene conventions are as much major social gatherings as they are competitions. And above the crowds and old CRT monitors are giant projectors, streaming the latest digital dreams, whether directly from the convention itself, or – as a sign of the swiftly changing times – piped in from Demoscene.tv.

Max Payne, Spore and many others: though the scene is still esoteric, and may very well stay esoteric, even now you can trace the roots of popular media back to the eldritch, droning beats of a dusty old computer, jury-rigged by arcane symbols and dark rituals to serve as a gateway to a world of jagged shadows and twisted beauty. 

James Chen is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at: jameschen@lavozeanza.com.

De Anza Voices: What does De Anza lack?



"I think they need to make sure they're compensating teachers enough to keep enough of them for the influx of students we're having."

J.P. Schaaphok
Marine biology
28



"I think we need more chem and psych activities, like field trips."

Chun Fai Mak
Business
20



"We need more programs for business majors, like internships."

Kartika Sanjaya
Business
19



"I want more hangout places, and more variety of food in the cafeteria."

Weiting Xu
Undecided
17

COMPILED BY ANDREA NOTT/LA VOZ



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Michelle Oquendo '08
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La Voz Weekly

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About Us

La Voz Weekly is a First Amendment newspaper written and published by De Anza College students.

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Contact Us

Letters to the editor, submissions and press releases are welcome and can be submitted to:

www.lavozdeanza.com/letters

Letters should be 300 words or less; letters more than 300 words may be edited for length. Letter content must not be libelous or intended to air personal grievances. La Voz does not guarantee that submissions and letters to the editor will be printed, nor does it guarantee coverage of events for which it receives press releases. La Voz reserves the right to edit letters and submissions for clarity in accordance with Associated Press writing style.

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The first copy of each issue of La Voz Weekly is free to everyone. Additional copies can be purchased through Business Manager Reza Kazempour.

More things in heaven and earth than UCs

THE OPINION OF THE
LA VOZ WEEKLY EDITORIAL BOARD

De Anza College's transfer rate is one of the highest among California community colleges. The college is geared to assist students on their paths to UCs and CSUs, and we have always appreciated faculty members' eagerness to help in that regard.

But why not broaden the scope and make sure students are aware of every opportunity? While De Anza has no end of resources dedicated to UC and CSU transfer admissions, there is little promotion of other four-year schools, and little assistance available to those interested in them.

Community colleges should do all they can to help students figure out and attain their future goals. De Anza's campus is very specifically centered on UC and CSUs, with very little acknowledgement of academia outside of those two systems.

By advertising and offering assistance with four-year schools other

than UCs and CSUs, De Anza would be helping students to the fullest extent. Students deserve to know about every possibility available to them.

In order to carry this out, De Anza could hold a well-publicized college fair every quarter, featuring information

available when it comes to other schools. tables from schools around the country. The transfer center, which already hosts representatives from CSUs and UCs on a regular basis, could invite other college representatives to visit and promote their institutions at De Anza.

While our counselors are well-versed in UC and CSU admissions, able to advise students easily about IGETC and http://assist.org, they are less knowledgeable when it comes to other schools.

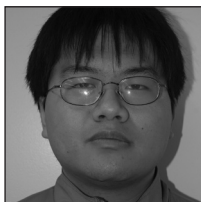


In an unfortunate twist of irony, it is those schools that typically require the most counselor assistance – unlike the straightforward UC/CSU application, they require several elements, including SAT scores, college and high school transcripts, college official reports, high school official reports, instructor evaluations, alumni interviews, midterm reports and course catalogs.

With all of these different application components to juggle, students could use more support from De Anza. The transfer center could hold workshops dedicated to helping students make sense of the process and stay organized throughout it.

De Anza is already stellar in aiding students along the path to UCs and CSUs. By showing students other options, the school would be fulfilling its mission of helping students find success. ■

Mounting microblogging mania



JamesCHEN

The idea of Twitter isn't new, of course. Its origins, if such a short history merits the word, trace all the way back to the early days of AIM, when everybody started to realize that away messages could, in fact, give more information than "I'm not here right now." You could coordinate events with it, make it easier for families and friends to find you, or simply let people know that you were too busy to warrant even a phone call, saving everybody a little hassle. It spread to Facebook statuses and profile updates for the same reason: social networking convenience, pure and simple. Really, Twitter was pretty much inevitable.

Of course, that doesn't really answer whether Twitter's a good thing.

Or if social networking, and microblogging in particular, is a good thing.

Its critics have pointed out, quite accurately, that the very concept is distilled narcissism, suggesting that the daily events of your everyday life are fascinating enough to merit streaming updates. Sure, in the case of celebrity twitters – with author Neil Gaiman, actor Wil Wheaton and musician Amanda Palmer – there's justification. It's an easy way to maintain a high level of public interest in whatever they're up to.

But what about everybody else? The narcissism critique holds true without even monetary interests to excuse it. Of course, the same can be said for any form of blogging, but it is exacerbated here by Twitter limiting people to transient bursts of information.

It's arguable, after all, that 140 characters simply isn't enough for any serious dialogue, or any real context. With only the shallow depth that Twitter provides, then perhaps Jon Stewart is right, and this really is nothing more than a gimmicky fad, soon to dissipate as a mere footnote

in cultural history.

Well, while I'm a great fan of Stewart's work, I'm afraid he needs more up-to-date writers. Twitter looks to have staying power – built on its quirky potential as a bastion of citizen journalism.

A student unlawfully arrested in Egypt. The Virginia Tech shooting, and an entire campus's worth of students, faculty and parents, trying to make sure their loved ones were all right. On both a dark and positive note, the coordination of the Mumbai terrorist attacks, and the coordination of the relief efforts and victim identification in the aftermath. Be it tragedy, be it politics, be it any kind of breaking news, the last few years have seen Twitter prove its worth.

Any journalist worth a damn has an account now, plugging into the rapidfire, staccato burst of Twitter's metacortex. Individually, the hundreds of links, thousands of updates, and

countless watching eyes amount to no more than a hatchling's tweet – but accumulated and eyed for the rippling patterns of informational exchange, they illustrate the entirety of the jungles of civilization.

Not bad for a mere 140 characters per post. ■

James Chen is a staff reporter for La Voz Weekly. Contact him at jameschen@lavozdeanza.com.



ILLUSTRATIONS (2) BY GALEN OBACK/LA VOZ

The Mail Bag

Recurring recycling theft

De Anza College is being victimized by thefts from our recycling bins. As a result, we are losing money. Even though these are petty crimes, they add up to significant losses that are draining part of the school budget.

Joe, a truck driver for PepsiCo, says that PepsiCo delivers about 80 cases of bottled sodas and cans a day to De Anza's campus. This averages out to approximately 9,600 bottles and cans each week. Patrick Gannon, De Anza's Dining Director, states that the recorded capture rate, received money from returned bottles and cans, is 35 percent. The remaining 65 percent is either thrown away or taken by bottle collectors. Every bottle and can

is worth five cents each. This means that De Anza is losing a potential school revenue of more than \$312 a week, \$3,744 a quarter or \$14, 976 for the school year! It is understandable that the economy is going through hard times, but theft is not the answer.

A couple things we can do is have recycle bins that are built into the walls or add locks to the current recycle bins and only allow janitors to have the key. Another good option would be to provide those in charge of emptying the bins with a badge that says they have the proper authority to claim the recycles. We could also start thinking about rewarding students who volunteer to sort out the recycling from the garbage cans. It is time we take back what rightfully belongs to us!

Jessica Marie Flemate
Dental hygiene, 19

Inflated cafeteria prices

The \$2.95 hot dog at the cafeteria has me wondering whether I am out of touch with how much things cost today. Looking in a Safeway ad, you can get a 10-pack of hot dogs for \$2.50 and an eight-pack of buns for about \$1. If my math is right, it costs about 38 cents for a hot dog and bun, exactly what you get at the cafeteria. If we add 57 cents for expenses, that leaves \$2 profit. Should the cafeteria be making that type of profit off of students? I may need to sign up for an economics course to figure this out, because I see these reasons for a price like that:

- There is no other place to get inexpensive food close to or around campus.
- The college needs to bring in funds any way possible
- The cafeteria is too busy, and it's an effort to limit the

number of students using the cafeteria by charging exorbitant amounts for food.

- No one is buying hot dogs, so they need to raise the price just to keep them available.
- In order to have a wider variety of foods available, some foods are used to offset the cost of others.

I'm not sure what the reason is for our cafeteria prices, but I'm sure it's a bad sign that you need a credit card nowadays to buy lunch. Last quarter, I purchased a burrito several times a week for \$3. It's now \$5. I thought \$3 was a little high then, but it was the best value for me at the time. I must just be out of touch with the true costs of food today.

By the way, Wienerschnitzel has that hot dog with chili and cheese for 99 cents.

Mathew Labinsky
History, 42

A silhouette of a runner is shown from behind, running on a grey path that curves through a yellow landscape under a blue sky. The runner is holding a rolled-up document in their right hand and has their left arm outstretched. To the left of the runner is a wooden signpost with a sign that reads "Cal Grant Deadline March 2".

**Cal Grant Deadline
March 2**

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!
Second Cal Grant Deadline is September 2

Fill out the 2009-10 FAFSA now.

Go to <http://www.deanza.edu/financialaid> for more information.

**The Financial Aid Office is located in the Campus Center
and the Baldwin Winery Building.**